

# CAGT Newsletter 中华协会简报

June 17, 2008



Issue 2

## Special points of interest:

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## A Message from the Vice President

Shanhe Jiang ([Shanhe.jiang@utoledo.edu](mailto:Shanhe.jiang@utoledo.edu))

Greetings from Guangzhou! Hope you all are enjoying summer in Toledo.

I have been here almost two weeks. I am impressed by several things that have happened in China in general and in Guangzhou in particular. First, Chinese people's hearts went out for the earthquake victims. They generously donated money, time and gave other kinds of help. There are many heartbreaking stories about the earthquake. Also, there are many heroes who helped the quake victims. For example, one approximately 5-year old boy rescued two other kids. Second, people in Guangzhou drink a lot of tea, soup, water or juice, much more than I thought.

Please note: they drink hot tea or soup on hot days! Third, people in Guangzhou have various outdoor activities, including Tai Chi and dance. Fourth, Guangzhou has high humidity and unpredictable weather. It is not surprising to see thunderstorms and heavy rain, and see the sun five minute later. Traveling in Guangzhou, you must carry an umbrella. Finally, related to weather, air pollution is a serious problem here in Guangzhou. I have not really seen a clean, deep blue sky during my stay in Guangzhou.

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## Our Thoughts Are with the Earthquake Victims

Luanne Billstein ([luannebillstein@sbcglobal.net](mailto:luannebillstein@sbcglobal.net))

Dear CAGT Members and Friends,

The Chinese Association of Greater Toledo (CAGT), together with the Chinese Center of Toledo (the Chinese school) has been collecting monetary donations for our neighbors on the other side of the world. After the horrendous news of the devastating earthquake in central China on May 12, our community wondered how we could help.

After one week of collecting donations for the Chinese Red Cross, we were ready to send our donation of over \$10,000! (actual total = \$10,336.51) We are genuinely touched by how generous and caring this group is.

Most of the donations were collected in one of four ways:

1. Donations at the Chinese Center of Toledo (CCT) on May 16 were matched by CCT up to max. of \$500.
2. Donations were collected at the Chinese Community picnic at Wildwood Park on May 17.
3. The Toledo International Youth Orchestra, which is a component of CAGT, accepted donations at their concert on May 18.
4. Additional donations were mailed or submitted in person.

A very big "Thank You" to CAGT, CCT and friends!!

CAGT Board

### **Toledo Museum of Art Community Gallery & Chinese Artwork Display**

Hewen Slak ([hslak@yahoo.com](mailto:hslak@yahoo.com))

Upon the invitation of the Toledo Museum of Art, Hewen Slak is coordinating a Chinese Community Art exhibit for 2009 or 2010. We need around 80-90 pieces artwork, 3-4 pieces from each artist. The artwork will be in all mediums: painting, sculpture, photography, paper cutting, jewelry, calligraphy, fabric, etc...No kids work please.

For more information on this exciting opportunity, please come to the preliminary meeting: Sunday, July 12, 11:00 AM, in the Community Gallery of TMA.





## CAGT Participates in ProMedica Asian-Pacific Month Celebration

Jing Meyer ([jmeyer13@UTNet.UToledo.Edu](mailto:jmeyer13@UTNet.UToledo.Edu))

After having been invited by the ProMedica Health System Office of Diversity, CAGT sent a performing team to the Toledo Hospital on May 22 to perform at its Asian-Pacific Month Celebration. Amy Yang and Jing Meyer coordinated CAGT's participation. The performing team was

composed of the following CAGT members: Linyue Chen, Lisa Doan, Litza Lee, Connie Li, Rui Li, Jing Meyer, Olivia O'nest, Lin Qian, Jessica Xie, Li Xue, Amy Yang, and Wei Zhu. The team presented a variety of culture rich entertainment to a large audience. The performances included Tai Chi, Tai Chi Kong Fu Fan, Peacock Folk Dance, Tai Chi Sword, Chinese Bamboo Flute, and Handkerchief Folk Dance.

CAGT's performances received many positive comments from the audience and event organizers. Jewell Lightner, Corporate Director of Diversity ProMedica Health System said the performance was fabulous and they were looking forward to working with CAGT in the future.



## Chinese Community Picnic a HUGE Success!

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008 was a warm, breezy day in Toledo, Ohio. At Wildwood Metropark, many members of the Chinese American community gathered for fun, food, and fellowship. People of all ages got together to play games, share a meal, fly kites, and relax and chat. It is estimated that approximately 350 people attended this popular annual event.



The picnic, which was several months in the planning, actually was held five days after the devastating earthquake in central China. Attendees at the picnic rose to the occasion and donated money to be used by the Chinese Red Cross for earthquake relief.



Many thanks go out to the organizations and individuals who helped to organize the Chinese Community Picnic. In addition to planning, many hands pitched in on the day of the event to help erect tents, the badminton net, set up tables, and clean up. Funds for the rental of the



shelter, drinks, paper goods and game supplies were provided by The Chinese Association of Greater Toledo and The Chinese Center of Toledo (Chinese school). Other groups involved were: Families with Children from China, The Chinese Alliance Church, University of Toledo Chinese Student Union, UT Chinese Outreach Fellowship, and Chinese Students & Scholars Association at Bowling Green State University.

### **News from China Center Toledo**

Hewen Slak ([hslak@yahoo.com](mailto:hslak@yahoo.com))

China has turned 180 degrees to a quasi market oriented economy and is well on its way to becoming the world's largest market. With this ever-increasing trade and culture exchange between the US and China, ChinaCenter Toledo was established at the beginning of 2008 by Hewen Slak and Joyce Xiang Jiang, to help position the Toledo community for this opportunity.

ChinaCenter will leverage the local Chinese community talent, resources and connections, to help build bridges with China including Taiwan , Hong Kong and Singapore (where Mandarin is the official language) and help attract Chinese investment to boost the Toledo economy.

ChinaCenter is currently offering two major education programs in the metro Toledo area; corporate training "*Doing business with China*" and a *Chinese Immersion Program for children K-12*.

There will be summer classes in Toledo including Taichi classes. If you have needs or talents, ChinaCenter will help to match them too.

### **Looking for "Short Term" Host Families**

Hoover, William D. ([WWhoover@UTNet.UToledo.Edu](mailto:WHoover@UTNet.UToledo.Edu))

Toledo Sister Cities International's International Youth Academy (IYA) is looking for host families for ten Chinese, ten Japanese, ten Korean, and a few European high school students for its summer program, July 21 – August 8, 2008.

Being a host family provides a wonderful opportunity for an international student to visit Toledo and learn about our city and country. It also enables us to learn about these countries and build ties of international good will. Students spend the days in classes and programs at The University of Toledo and Lourdes College and stay with your family during the evening, nights, and weekends.

Won't you please share your home and life with one or two of these students?

For information and/or an application please contact Toledo Sister Cities International, One Government Center , Suite 2100 , Toledo , Ohio 43606 ; phone 419-245-3334, [Cecilia.martin@toledo.oh.gov](mailto:Cecilia.martin@toledo.oh.gov) or William D. Hoover, IYA Chair, 2240 Goddard Rd, Toledo, Ohio 43606; phone 419-531-8242, [whoover@utoledo.edu](mailto:whoover@utoledo.edu)



### **Chinese Families Win Special Honor**

Hewen Slak ([hslak@yahoo.com](mailto:hslak@yahoo.com))

#### **KK & Qiu Ping Liew family**

Qiu Ping Liew has graduated this summer from the University of Toledo College of Pharmacy. Her husband, KK Liew, was a former board member of the Toledo Chinese School. Many nights after a full day's work, KK did the cooking and watched the couple's three young children while Qiu Ping pursued her studies. In 2001, during the Chinese School's renovation project, KK's car could be seen parked in front of the Chinese School on many mornings as early as 6am. For six long years, this family demonstrated extraordinary perseverance and cooperation while Qiu Ping earned her degree in this demanding field of study. We are happy to hear that there is already a great job waiting for Qiu Ping. Much success to KK, Qiu Ping and the entire family.

#### **David and Isawaty K. Darmahkasih family**

Many people are familiar with the Chinese School teacher, XiaoYi. Her official name is Isawaty K. Darmahkasih. Isawaty graduated from Owens Community College in the Fall of 2007, where she received much recognition and honor by presenting the commencement speech as the class representative. Now this spring, her son, Andrew, has also graduated as valedictorian of the Class of 2008 from Northview High School in Sylvania . Andrew was awarded a Fulbright scholarship and will be attending the University of Michigan. In addition to his outstanding academic achievement, Andrew is also a mature and respectful young man, and a dedicated Christian.

Upon the request of ChinaCenter Toledo, Andrew is willing to be a math tutor for our youth this summer. Please contact [Chinacentertoledo@yahoo.com](mailto:Chinacentertoledo@yahoo.com) for details.

## Xunlight Corporation

Hewen Slak ([hslak@yahoo.com](mailto:hslak@yahoo.com))

### **Xunlight Corporation, Co-founded by CAGT Members Dr. Xunming Deng and Dr. Liwei Xu, Receives Additional Financing**



Xunlight Corporation recently raised another \$22 million funding. Governor Ted Strickland praised this outstanding couple in his recent Toledo visit. Xunlight Corporation, a technology spin-off from the University of Toledo, engages in the development, manufacture, and marketing of photovoltaic modules that convert sunlight into electricity.

For additional information, visit [www.xunlight.com](http://www.xunlight.com).

## Two books about China and Chinese Culture



Peter You ([peteryouut@yahoo.com](mailto:peteryouut@yahoo.com))

*China A to Z* by May-lee Chai and Wenbing Chai. It explains the traditions, customs and etiquette essential for anyone who wants to understand China and her people. From architecture and body language to Confucianism and Fengshui, this book offers entertaining basic information about China. This book is available at Lucas County Public Library.

*China: People | Place | Culture | History* by Bailey, Knapp, Neville-Hadley, Roberts and Steinhard. It captures the essence of China with splendid pictures of the landscape, history, people, culture and architecture. There are several unique features of the book, such as the historical timeline, illustrations of different ethnic people etc. The illustrations showing the classical literature in this book is indeed unique. The imagery brings the characters in the literature into life. Check it out and have fun reading it with your kids. This book is available at Lucas County Public Library.

## More Local Schools Offer Chinese Language Courses

Peter You ([peteryouut@yahoo.com](mailto:peteryouut@yahoo.com))



In addition to the Chinese Center of Toledo (CCT

<http://www.toledochinese.org/cct> ) more local schools offer Chinese language courses. These schools are:

- Genoa Area Local School
- Maumee Valley Country Day School
- Springfield Local Schools
- Start High School
- St. John's Jesuit Academy
- Sylvania Schools
- Ottawa Hills High School

To become a certified Chinese language teacher in Ohio, visit the website of the Chinese Flagship Program at the Ohio State University.

Sources: <http://k12chineseflagship.osu.edu/schools.php>

<http://www.askasia.org/chinese/news.htm>

### **Except from an article on CSMonitor.com**

Submitted by Luanne Billstein ([luannebillstein@sbcglobal.net](mailto:luannebillstein@sbcglobal.net) )

American students are clamoring to learn Chinese. The problem: There aren't enough teachers to meet the demand. Enrollment has soared, going from 5,000 primary and secondary school students in 2000 to estimates as high as 50,000 today, according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. In China, some 200 million students are studying English through programs put in place decades ago. In the US, the sudden attention on Mandarin has exposed a serious lack of infrastructure.

To seed Chinese programs here, school districts are using guest-worker visas to bring over teachers from China and Taiwan. Another 34 schools this January received teachers from China through a new program set up by the College Board and Hanban, a Chinese government organization. Participating schools pay about \$3,500 and agree to provide housing and local transportation to the teacher for two years, with the option to extend the contract for one more year. By 2009, the program hopes to bring as many as 250 teachers to the US.

Read full story here: <http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/0327/p03s03-legn.html>